

## The microdistrict concept

From the very beginning the structure of the "plan city" Shevchenko was based upon typical concepts of Soviet urban planning. A strict separation of functions as well as the foundation of dense microdistricts were of big importance. Thus a clear edge between city and steppe areas became characteristic.



Aerial view of the 4th microdistrict (Early 1990s)



7th microdistrict (around 2000)



Draft concept of the 4th microdistrict (late 1960s)

## The city centre



"Lenin square" with town hall (1985)



Aerial view of the city centre (1980s)

Following the basic ideas of urban design the city centre was built up in an archetype socialist way. Strictly separated from residential areas it consists of the town hall, a hotel, a cultural centre, a retail trade centre, a cinema and an accommodation building for single workers.



Designed green spaces (2004)

# Shevchenko/Aktau - The heritage of an ideal socialist city Microdistricts and the city centre

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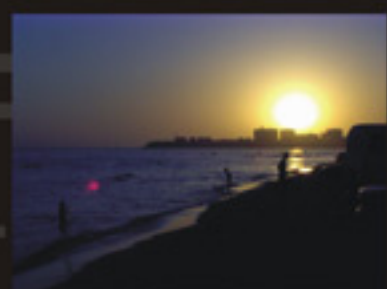


Kindergarten in the 28th microdistrict

To minimize the negative impacts by street traffic and industry the residential microdistricts were oriented to their insides. They possessed of all supply facilities which were thought necessary for the local population. Child care, schools and retail trade were located within walking distance to all residential buildings.



School and hospital in the centre of the 7th microdistrict



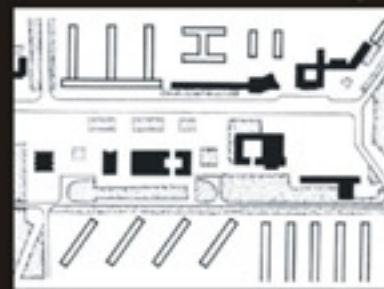
Shoreline of the Caspian sea and the 4th microdistrict



Steppe bordering the 12th microdistrict



Main street "Lenin prospekt" (1980s)



Downtown layout of Shevchenko

In the area of the central ensemble the planners put special attention to the design of green and open spaces. Furthermore, they tried to incorporate tradition and modernity in the architecture of the Soviet "plan city". The yurt shaped rooftop of the trade centre "Schum" symbolizes this approach.



City Centre (2004)



Palace of culture "Abal" (1980s)



Erecting the roof of the public and shopping center "Schum" (1979)



Cinema "Jubilenj" (1968)



Hotel "Aktau" (2004)



Casino "Laguna"; reconstructed cinema "Jubilenj" (2004)